



**PATRICK TESTIN**  
STATE SENATOR

***PRESS RELEASE***

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**Two Testin Authored Workforce Bills Pass the Assembly**  
*Legislation focuses on helping students with apprenticeships*

**Madison, WI** – Two bills authored by Senator Patrick Testin (Stevens Point) that help equip young people to find family supporting jobs passed the Assembly on Tuesday.

Assembly Bill 745, a part of the Rural Wisconsin Initiative workforce package, enables high school seniors to simultaneously earn educational credits and credit toward the completion of their apprenticeship. The sooner an apprentice is able to complete their training, the sooner they can start to fulfill their earning potential.

“Apprenticeships play a critical role in bolstering certain sectors of our workforce,” said Senator Testin. “I’m committed to fostering deeper partnerships between our schools and local businesses so that we can get young people the right training to launch a career as quickly as possible.”

The second piece of legislation, Assembly Bill 808, provides \$200,000 to the Tools of the Trade program, which allocates up to \$1,000 to technical college students for the purchase of materials associated with an apprenticeship training program. Approximately 96% of students who have utilized the program have gone on to complete their apprenticeships or continue their training in the following semester.

“Students are realizing the opportunities available in the trades,” said Testin. “The median salary for students who complete an apprenticeship is over \$67,000 - by passing this bill, we will be able to help 100 more students annually pursue a path that ends in a high paying job for them and a need met for our employers.”

Both bills have passed through the Senate committee process and need only a vote of the full Senate before going to the Governor’s desk.

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